

Mayor Dave Anderson called the regularly scheduled council meeting of October 21, 2008 to order at 6:30 p.m. Present for the meeting were Mayor Anderson, Council President John Langs, Council Members Dave Sims, Connie Wells, and Dave Gray, Deputy Clerk Tammy Stemmene, City Administrator Stephen Boorman, Police Chief Rick Alonzo, and City Attorney Tim Wilson. Also present were Helen Chase, Carolyn Testa, Marcia Cossette, Gene and Ruth Perry, Darrell Kerby, Ralph Lotspeich, Gayle Alexander, and Gwen Albers.

Gene Perry introduced himself and his wife, Ruth, as the owners of the Northside School Bed and Breakfast. He spoke against the proposed lodging tax. He stated that the other three lodging places in the Bonners Ferry City limits will have to pay 13% more taxes than Kootenai River Inn as they are exempt from taxes and are best known. He also said that Bonners Ferry was not a resort town and was never designated as one. They urge all voters to vote no on this punitive tax.

Ralph Lotspeich, Golf Course Manager, asked to purchase a different sprinkler system. He found a used one, nine years old, in excellent shape that he would like to offer \$5,000.00 for. The Toro dealer said it would cost around \$63,0000.00 for all new parts for the existing system.

Darrell Kerby talked to the council about the new health insurance rates. He negotiated with Blue Cross to charge only 3% price increase instead of 8% as planned. Darrell stated that he had not received a firm quote from Regence yet, because we have not submitted everything they needed. If we were to pursue this they would not be able to start until December. Darrell recommends that the city accept the Blue Cross proposal and go out for bid next year, but to start earlier in the year.

Police Chief Rick Alonzo said that it had been fairly quiet the last two weeks. The new officer is working out well with the speed grant they are working on. They are trying to work out something with P.O.S.T. for dog training.

Fire Chief Pat Warkentin gave the fire report. There had been one chimney fire on Arizona Street and a false alarm on Birch Street. He also had a North Idaho story to tell. Columbus Day he was at the local Carquest and the phone at the store rang. The person answered the phone and handed it to Pat, stating it was for him. He didn't think it was possible because nobody knew he was there. It was a lady that wanted a burning permit. She had called City Hall, but they were closed. She then called her hair dresser. Her hair dresser has a shop across from Carquest and she saw Pat over there.

Economic Developer Mike Sloan gave his report. He put together some goals for the BEDC for the fiscal year 2008-2009. One goal is the retention and expansion of current businesses in the area. Relocation and start up is the hardest part of the program. One of Mike's top priorities is the Chamber of Commerce. He said it is getting stronger with activities, such as the swish tournament and those kinds of things. They have a web site that is 90% complete and should be finished shortly. Developments and work release programs are underway around the county that

includes a nursing program and other educational programs.

Stephen Boorman gave the administrator report. He gave out the final report of the Broadband Study. The study consists of fiber from the city hall to the lift stations and from city hall to the fire hall. They recommend wireless out to the dam. Stephen stated that he talked to the commissioners and they agreed that the city to name the street between the old mill site and the fairgrounds. Stephen is not ready to give the stats for the water project, yet. He will get it together as soon as he can.

John Langs moved to approve the consent agenda in its entirety. Dave Sims seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor. The consent agenda contained the following: roll call; approval of October 21, 2008 accounts payable; approval of October 7, 2008 council meeting minutes; approval for Stephen Boorman to attend ARC Flash Assessment Class in Spokane on December 9-10, 2008.

John Langs moved to approve the special event permit for the All Class Reunion and waive the fee and cover the event under the city's insurance. Connie Wells seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

Dave Gray moved to approve the bid for Flory to do the power line right of way clearing. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Dave Sims “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

Dave Sims moved to authorize the purchase of the Golf Course sprinkler system, up to \$5000. Dave Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Dave Sims “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

John Langs moved to renew our existing health insurance contract with Blue Cross, as is. Dave Gray seconded the motion. It passed, all in favor.

Dave Sims moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with Jay Owenhouse for the Magic Show on December 7, 2008. Connie Wells seconded the motion. It passed – John Langs “yes”, Dave Sims “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”.

Helen Chase gave a description on what the Christmas Festival will entail this year. November 28th there will be a tree lighting and Santa will arrive by fire truck. December 5th and 6th there will be a celebration throughout the stores and a market Square in Georgia Mae with entertainment and then a free movie.

Dave Gray moved to approve the Christmas Festival special event permit and waive the fees. John Langs seconded the motion. It passed, all in favor.

The council discussed nominations for the ICRMP Board of Trustees. No action was taken.

Dave Gray moved to authorize Mayor to sign Elevator Inspection Contract, pending review. Dave Sims seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Dave Sims “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”.

The council discussed overnight parking in the City parking lot. Options were discussed. Stephen will talk to John Youngwirth about closing the small parking lot from 12:00 - 8:00 a.m. for plowing purposes.

Dave Sims moved to advertise for bids on the Clarifier Project. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed, all in favor.

The legislative meeting in Boise on November 7, 2008 was discussed. The council will not be attending, but want to be kept informed on what's going on in legislation.

Dave Sims moved to approve Kootenai River Inn's catering permit for the Ducks Unlimited Banquet on October 24, 2008. Dave Gray seconded the motion. It passed, all in favor.

Dave Sims moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 67-2345 subsection (1) at 8:03 p.m. to discuss legal and negotiations. John Langs seconded the motion. The motion passed – John Langs “yes”, Dave Gray “yes”, Dave Sims “yes”, Connie Wells “yes”. At 8:50 p.m. council went out of executive session. No action was taken.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Tamera Stemmene, Deputy City Clerk